



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Thaxton Van Belle, Director of Water Reclamation
DATE July 15, 2025
SUBJECT: Discussion and Direction on a Proposed Recycled Water Reuse Strategy

Description *Strategic Plan Target 4 – Finances/Resources – Goal 4.1 Obtain a Recycled Water Permit to enhance water sustainability, support long-term resource management, and ensure a reliable environmentally responsible water supply for the community.*

Background and Analysis:

On March 8, 2023, the City entered into a professional services agreement with Dopudja & Wells Consulting to provide support for implementing outside sales and the reuse of recycled water.

The City has considered multiple options for the reuse of the recycled water produced at its wastewater treatment plant. A series of internal meetings, recycled subcommittee meetings, and “2x2x2” meetings, both with and without staff, have been held with the goal of formulating a cohesive recycled water policy. Dopudja & Wells has served as an advisor to the City and as a facilitator amongst local agencies.

On April 30, 2025, Dopudja & Wells held a “whiteboarding” session to address key challenges in determining a suitable end use for the City’s recycled water and to develop a strategy for the successful deployment of recycled water in the region. Representatives from the Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District (BCVWD), San Geronio Pass Water Agency (PASS), and the City participated in the session and provided feedback. It was recognized that the City and BCVWD have significant investments in advancing recycled water deployment, and PASS supports regional stability and resilience through reuse.

Ultimately, the concept of a hybrid solution emerged: BCVWD utilizing recycled water in its “purple pipe” system according to demand, with any excess recycled water used for groundwater recharge through a partnership involving the City, BCVWD, and the PASS agency.

The next steps in pursuing a hybrid end-use strategy are to identify potential sites for groundwater recharge using recycled water and to develop a tiered pricing structure for recycled water used in non-potable systems and for groundwater recharge. PASS has reached out and indicated that they would entertain a partnership with the City for the siting study and potentially shared recharge resources.

Fiscal Impact:

The estimated cost to prepare this report is \$750.

Recommended Action:

Direct staff to pursue a hybrid recycled water strategy, work with the San Geronio Pass Water Agency on a financial partnership for a siting study, and develop a tiered pricing structure with BCVWD for the sale of recycled water as part of the ongoing negotiation matrix.

Attachments:

- A. Dopudja & Wells Presentation